## **REMARKS**

Claims 31, 32 and 34 have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies.

New claim 38 covers the subject matter eliminated from amended claim 32.

In view of the above, an early allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory D. Ferraro Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 36,134

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 104 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080 (862) 778-7831

Date:

5/12/2006